



State Capitol | Lansing, Michigan 48913
PH (517) 373.2420 | FAX (517) 373.2764
www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/garcia/

For Immediate Release
January 14, 2004

Contact: Karen Szczepanski
517-373-2420

Garcia child support legislation signed into law

Lansing – Legislation to change the way past-due child support fees are assessed was signed into law Thursday, announced Sen. Valde Garcia (R-Howell), the bill’s sponsor.

“Matching rates to economic conditions will encourage people to pay both current and overdue child support obligations,” Garcia said. “Even well-intentioned parents can fall behind on child support payments because of a job loss or illness, and the fee schedule should not make it impossible for them to catch up on missed payments.”

The new law changes the annual interest rate on past-due child support from the current 8-percent to a variable rate based on the interest rate for money judgments, the rate of interest that state law requires courts to use in calculating interest on judgments recovered in civil actions. These rates are generally less than 8 percent.

The law goes into effect immediately.

###